



PRESS RELEASE

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COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SUPPORTS FAMILIES WITH GRANT *Innovative Family Advocate Model Expanding—A Low-Cost Intervention*

Stamford, CT/ **The Fairfield County Community Foundation** has announced a \$40,000 grant to Stamford nonprofit **Domus** to support the organization's *family advocate model*, which helps remove non-academic barriers to learning for students in Domus' charter schools and several Stamford public schools.

The model utilizes trained professionals who develop trusting relationships with youth and their families to help them move beyond challenges that can limit school success, such as issues with employment, insurance, housing, and physical or mental health.

Domus Executive Director Mike Duggan noted, "The foundation's grant means we can expand our successful family advocate model, which we've run for over 13 years, and help more youth and their families experience success in school and in life. These funds will help more children make successful life transitions and grow into happy, healthy adults who can keep Stamford socially and economically strong."

Domus employs 11 family advocates at Trailblazers Academy Charter Middle School, Stamford Academy Charter High School, Westhill High School, Stamford High School, and the Stamford Police Department. Family advocates conduct home visits, advocate for youth in school settings, and do whatever it takes for a young person to succeed.

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ABOUT DOMUS:

Domus helps over 600 children and their families experience academic and life success through a variety of educational, residential, and community programs. Domus ensures that the children in its care meet their full potential by building loving, trusting relationships in structured, respectful environments. The Domus vision: *No child shall be denied hope, love, or a fair chance in life.* www.domuskids.org

ABOUT THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION:

The Fairfield County Community Foundation promotes the growth of community and regional philanthropy to improve the quality of life throughout Fairfield County. Individuals, families, corporations and organizations can establish charitable funds and contribute to existing funds. The Foundation also provides philanthropic advisory services, and develops and leads initiatives to tackle critical community issues. It is in compliance with the Council on Foundations' national standards for community foundations. The Foundation has awarded over \$110 million in grants to nonprofits in Fairfield County and beyond. For more information, visit www.fccfoundation.org.

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